

Message Text

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42-L

ORIGIN AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-11 SS-20 COME-00 H-03 TRSE-00 OMB-01

NSC-10 NSCE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 PRS-01

OPIC-12 L-03 EUR-25 AID-20 CIEP-02 /138 R

DRAFTED BY AF/W:JKBISHOP:RCB

APPROVED BY AF:RSSMITH

AF/W:JLLOUGHRAN

EB/IFD/OIA:CNELLIS

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R 81531Z JAN 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LOME

INFO AMEMBASSY COTONOU

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 003355

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EMIN, PFOR, TO

SUBJECT: TOGOLESE PHOSPHATES

REF: LOME 0043

1. EMBASSY'S THOROUGH REPORT ON SITUATION APPRECIATED BY DEPARTMENT AND W.R. GRACE OFFICIALS, INCLUDING GEORGE BLACKWOOD.

2. BLACKWOOD EXPRESSED DISAPPOINTMENT WITH ROBERT AS NEGOTIATOR, SAYING QUOTE HE GAVE AWAY THE HOMESTEAD UNQTE IN AGREEING TO PASS ON TO TOGOLESE GOVERNMENT ALL BENEFITS OF PRICE INCREASE. BLACKWOOD OPINED THAT TOGOLESE WILL HAVE LITTLE REASON TO EXPROPRIATE, HAVING OBTAINED FROM ROBERT ALL THEY COULD HOPE OBTAIN THROUGH EXPROPRIATION. HE SAID ROBERT AND FRENCH PARTNERS PERSISTING IN EFFORTS EXPLAIN TO TOGOLESE THAT SALES PRICES FOR 1974 MUST BE COMPETITIVE WITH MOROCCAN PRICES, WITH GREATER TRANSPORT COSTS FOR TOGOLESE PHOSPHATE OFFSETTING BENEFIT HIGHER
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GRADE.

3. BLACKWOOD APPEARS RESIGNED TO SITUATION. HE BELIEVES THAT IF TOGOLESE TAKE OVER COMMERCIALIZATION THEY WILL HAVE NO DIFFICULTY FINDING CUSTOMERS IN PRESENT TIGHT MARKET BUT MAY EXPERIENCE CONSIDERABLE DIFFICULTIES TRYING SELL PHOSPHATE WITHOUT HELP OF EUROPEAN AND AMERICAN PARTNER*.
?4. BLACKWOOD SAYS IN VIEW LIMITED LEVERAGE OF USG IN TOGO, GIVEN OUR MODEST ASSISTANCE ROLE, HE DOUBTS DEMARCHE BY AMBASSADOR ON COMMERCIALIZATION WOULD HAVE ANY EFFECT OTHER THAN TO IRRITATE RELATIONS BETWEEN EMBASSY AND TOGOLESE GOVERNMENT. W.R. GRACE WOULD PREFE* FOREGO DEMARCHE IN HOPES KEEPING LINES OPEN BETWEEN EMBASSY AND GOT FOR ANY FUTURE CONTACTS WHICH MAY BE DESIRABLE. KISSINGER

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NNN

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Message Attributes

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30 JUN 2005

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To: LOME INFO COTONOU
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